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of the college, and to compete successfully with the larger universities.

Finally, it is the belief of your committee that there are an increasing number of men and women graduating from our colleges who are not fitted or who do not wish to devote themselves to the longer and profounder study and original research required for the doctor's degree, but who do desire to pursue further their college studies in some chosen direction and who might do so with great profit to themselves and to the community; especially is this true of those young men and women who intend to teach in the elementary and secondary schools and of those students who are about to enter our theological seminaries. Moreover, it is our belief that a few men in each year's graduating class at Rutgers belong to this group and should be encouraged to study at Rutgers for the higher degree. We have already three fellowships for whose administration we are responsible and we should no doubt be glad to receive further endowments of this sort.

Hence it seems to us both fitting and progressive that Rutgers College should seek to solve, for itself at least, this rather puzzling academic problem.

We recommend:

First, that the master's degree be regarded by the faculty of Rutgers College as a degree to be given after extended liberal study and not, as in the case of the doctor's degree, after intense application to one subject and to original research;

Secondly, that the studies pursued by the candidate for this degree constitute a distinct course by themselves as they would if he were studying law or divinity;

Thirdly, that this course consist of three subjects to be pursued by the student for two years, ordinarily in residence at Rutgers; equivalent graduate courses pursued at another institution may, however, be substituted for the first year's requirements;

Fourthly, that the character of such studies shall not differ essentially from that of the elective courses now widely offered to seniors in our colleges; in other words, that their character should be elementary and liberal;

Fifthly, that no student graduating from Rutgers College after 1912 be granted the master's degree on the basis of the present requirements.

Submitted to the faculty April 19, 1911.

AUSTIN SCOTT,
J. VOLNEY LEWIS,
WALTER T. MARVIN,
Committee

MUSEUM BUILDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES

THE writer has recently taken occasion to tabulate some statistics on museum buildings in the United States. The data were taken from the Directory of American Museums published two years ago by the Buffalo Society of Natural History. Table I. shows the source of the money with which museum buildings were erected. Table II. shows the years, by decades, the money was given or appropriated for museum buildings. Table III. shows the distribution of museum buildings in five groups of states. A map which was also prepared shows the location of the buildings. While the data given in the Buffalo publication are quite complete, it is evident that no tables like these can be perfectly accurate. They are, nevertheless, very instructive.

TABLE I

Decades	Number of Museums	Amounts Received
1840-1849	1	\$ 20,000
1850-1859	2	34,000
1860-1869	6	1,277,000
1870-1879	7	6,030,000
1880-1889	5	560,000
1890-1899	20	9,866,000
1900-1909	21	14,224,000
Unknown		5,221,000

TABLE II

Sources of Funds	Number of Museums	Amounts Received
Private donations	36	\$18,958,000
Universities (indirectly some states)	15	1,382,000
Cities	10	8,599,000
State and national governments	3	7,350,000
Other sources	1	943,000

TABLE III

Groups of States	Number of Museums	Cost of Buildings
Middle Atlantic States (6) ...	16	\$17,478,000
North Central States (15)	16	8,466,000
New England States (6)	19	4,910,000
District of Columbia	2	4,400,000
Rocky Mountain and Pacific States (11)	10	1,836,000
Southern States	2	142,000

It is evident that the growth of our museums is largely parallel with the growth of

our national wealth and with the progress of higher education in our own country. It is during the last fifty years that American universities have begun to provide adequate facilities for higher education of the American youth. Museum building suffered a notable decline during the eighties. This was a period of active industrial development and of immigration into the Great Plains and to the west. To the writer the rapidly rising series of figures in the first table suggests the initial rapid growth of a great and strong nation *in its infancy*. Individual growth is most rapid at first.

ing of living truths in the human intellect by the collection and care of what the average hard-headed business man would scorn as "dry bones."

Table III. and the map indicate roughly the geographic distribution and the course of westward travel of the scientific mind of our nation. It has blazed a trail from Boston via New York and Philadelphia, to San Francisco. They show also the lingering effects of the world's most cruel war. Museums are the creations of intellect and wealth. Our great civil war destroyed the wealth of the south. Hence the insignificant sum spent for mu-



The irregularities in the series show that it does not represent the activities of any great number of individuals. The series is clearly an expression of a few potent factors, psychic, inscrutable forces, acting through the medium of exceptional men. And it is well known that the average man, the average man of wealth included, is not a prophet. It requires a prophet's instincts and faith to make enormous investments looking to the awaken-

seums in the south. A large vacant area appears in the southwest. The straight lines on the map, radiating from a point in the south part of this space, show the shortest distances to the nearest museums, where a naturalist in this region can take his collection for study. The indices at the proximal ends of these lines point to a place where the great museum of the southwest should be reared, a modern temple of science on the

Mediterranean of the Occident. Here is an exceptional opportunity for the exceptional man. Will he see it?

J. A. UDDEN

AUSTIN, TEXAS,

April 15, 1912

*REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN
INSTITUTION*

DR. ANDREW D. WHITE has been reappointed, by joint resolution of congress, as a regent of the Smithsonian Institution for six years. Dr. White received his first appointment to this office in the year 1888 and upon the completion of the present term he will have served the institution for thirty years. The vacancy in the board caused by the resignation of Dr. James B. Angell, ex-president of the University of Michigan, who was a regent from January 19, 1887, to January 15, 1912, has been filled by congress by the appointment of the Honorable Charles W. Fairbanks. With the appointments mentioned, the roll of regents is now complete. It is as follows: James S. Sherman, Vice-president of the United States, chancellor; Edward D. White, Chief Justice of the United States; Shelby M. Cullom, member of the Senate; Henry Cabot Lodge, member of the Senate; Augustus O. Bacon, member of the Senate; John Dalzell, member of the House of Representatives; Scott Ferris, member of the House of Representatives; Irvin S. Pepper, member of the House of Representatives; Andrew D. White, citizen of New York; Alexander Graham Bell, citizen of Washington, D. C.; George Gray, citizen of Delaware; Charles F. Choate, Jr., citizen of Massachusetts; John B. Henderson, Jr., citizen of Washington, D. C.; and Charles W. Fairbanks, citizen of Indiana.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

JULES HENRI POINCARÉ, the great mathematician and man of science, died on July 17. He was born at Nancy on April 29, 1854.

THE University of Oxford has conferred the degree of D.Sc. on the following foreign delegates attending the celebration of the 250th

anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Society: Dr. Backlund, director of the Imperial Observatory, Pulkowa; Dr. Brögger, professor of mineralogy and geology at Christiania and rector of the university; Professor Lippmann, president of the Académie des Sciences, Paris; Professor Scott, Blair professor of geology and paleontology at Princeton University; Dr. Waldeyer, professor of anatomy and director of the anatomical institute in the University of Berlin; Dr. Zeeman, professor of physics at Amsterdam.

THE degree of LL.D. was conferred on Professor A. H. Purdue, by the University of Arkansas, upon his retirement from that institution in June. For sixteen years he had been professor of geology there, and *ex-officio* state geologist of Arkansas since 1907. He is now state geologist of Tennessee.

At the last annual commencement of Lehigh University the honorary degree of doctor of science was conferred on Dr. James E. Talmage, formerly professor of geology in the University of Utah, and on Mr. James Gayley, of New York City.

WASHINGTON COLLEGE, Chestertown, Md., conferred the degree of doctor of science on Dr. J. S. Grasty, professor of geology at the University of Virginia, at the annual commencement, when Professor Grasty delivered the address to the students.

ON the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, the Belgian Chemical Society has elected as honorary members all those who have received the Nobel prize, namely, Messrs. Arrhenius, von Baeyer, Buchner, Fischer, Ostwald, Ramsay, Rutherford and Wallach and Mme. Curie.

DR. FRANCIS H. CHAMPNEYS has been elected president of the Royal Society of Medicine, London.

PROFESSOR JEREMIAH W. JENKS, of Cornell University, has been appointed financial adviser to the Chinese republic.

DR. E. DE WILDMAN has been appointed director of the Brussels Botanical Garden.

MR. WILLIAM ODLING, M.A., F.R.S., has been elected an honorary fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, on his resignation of the Wayn-